



August, 2021

# THE HARC SPARK

The Official Newsletter of the  
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club  
WM3PEN 146.685 Mhz Repeater  
K3RJC 444.9 Mhz Repeater  
K3FI – Club Calls – WM3PEN  
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>



Editors: K3UJ

Hello, this is my first attempt at writing one of these so please bear with me. It was brought up that the newsletter should return as it is an important part of the club's history and a way to keep members aware of what the club is doing. That's very important now with the pause in physical meetings so I am going to give the editing a try. Rich – K3UJ

## July

For the eleventh year in a row we participated in the 13 Colonies Special Event as a Bonus Station, and again we outdid ourselves completing 10,356 QSO's for a club record. The event itself garnered 253,283 QSO's over the seven day period. That is a lot of activity.

This year, besides GB13COL in England a third bonus station was added, TM13COL in France

Joined by members of the The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Philadelphia Digital Radio Association, and Villanova University Amateur Radio Club, HARC worked all 50 states, 78 countries and 6 Continents on 10M, 12M, 15M, 17M, 20M, 30M, 40M, 80M, 160M, 6M, 2M, 70cm (440) using SSB, CW, PSK31, FT8, FT4, DSTAR, Fusion, DMR, Satellite, manned by 24 operators. Thank you Bob - WA3PZO, that is a lot of coordination.

As far as confirmations, 3000+ EQSL's and over 600 cards were received. These have all been answered.

All of this activity has increased our EQSL award count. This year we added:

- eGrid - FT8 (431)
- eNAmerica – FT8 (11)
- ePFX300 – mixed (1126), FT8 (529)
- eSAmerica – mixed (10)
- eWAC – 17M (6), 20M (6), 40M (6), WARC (6)
- eWAS – FT8 (50), 40M (50), WARC (50)

## Looking ahead

In 2026 the United States will be 250 years old. There are committees established at the county, state, and national levels.  
[Philadelphia250.us](http://Philadelphia250.us)  
[America250pa.org](http://America250pa.org)  
[America250.org](http://America250.org)

HARC is looking at ways to participate in this special celebration. The 13 Colonies Special Event fits within this celebration. WM3PEN has promoted the City's history via unique qsl cards each year. With over 10,300 contacts this year (over 75% unique callsigns) in all 50 states, 78 countries on 6 continents we have a unique opportunity to promote the city. The Pennsylvania station, K2M, had an additional 20,000+ contacts. The entire 13 Colonies event had over 252,000 contacts. Besides the original 13 Colonies we shared the event with Great Britain and France.

From the Philadelphia250 website: At its heart, the story of the Declaration of Independence is about a group of ordinary people who achieved extraordinary things. It's the classic underdog victory story of insurmountable odds. Our founding fathers took on the world's greatest empire, demanded respect, envisioned a new reality, and pledged their lives to make it so. And they won. That same revolutionary spirit can be a guide for us today and as we make our way to 2026. Starting soon, PHILADELPHIA250 will engage with people all across the city and help turn ideas into creative expressions and future programming for 2026. The Declaration of Independence will be our guidepost and our inspiration. Our network of partners will help us make it so.

From the America250pa website:

The Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA) was established by the legislature and Governor in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, Pennsylvania's integral role in that event, and the impact of its people on the nation's past, present, and future.

America250PA hopes to engage all citizens of the Commonwealth, from all 67 counties, bring the Commonwealth's history into the conversation so Pennsylvanians can better understand the origins and multiple perspectives of issues facing our Commonwealth & nation today, use history to encourage and inspire future leaders, celebrate the contributions of Pennsylvanians to our Commonwealth's history but also to our Nation's history, leave a lasting impact on the next generation and to spark an interest in which will ignite the drive for them to appreciate all the triumphs, trials and tribulations to which contributed to the Commonwealth for which they are now writing their own history.

From the America250 website:

America250 is a multiyear effort to commemorate the semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary, of the United States. The purpose of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, created by Congress, and the corresponding America250 Foundation is to catalyze a more perfect union by designing and leading the most comprehensive and inclusive celebration in our country's history.

America250 represents a coalition of public and private partners all working to create initiatives and programs that honor our first 250 years and inspire Americans to imagine our next 250. The commemoration period began in 2020, culminates on July 4, 2026, and officially concludes in 2027.

As we think the 13 Colonies event can play a unique role in promoting not only Philadelphia but America 250. An email has been sent to Ken, KU2US, the 13 Colonies event coordinator for his opinion.

### **Contributions**

Please tell us what you are doing. Have you received any awards, upgraded your license, done any activations, (SOTA, IOTA, etc), built something special. Or if you would like to contribute an article. We would be happy to receive all material. Email Rich AB3EO@comcast.net

## **On The Air**

### **POTA**

Wayne (W4FDT), Doug (N4DJR), Jeramy (KI7EC) and Eric (KL5BO) are planning an 800 mile interior Alaska POTA activation. They have a list of around 25 parks they are going to attempt to activate. They will be focusing on those that haven't been activated before. Spotting using the POTA spotting page at <http://pota.app>. Operating August 13th - August 15th 2021. If you are a park hunter this will be your time to get some parks in the log that may not ever be activated again or if you just need Alaska for your WAS, they are going to be available for you also.

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### **HF AWARDS MANAGER**

Are you getting close to having all 50 states confirmed for the Worked All States award or working enough grid squares for to qualify for the VUCC Award? As a HARC service you can now have your QSL cards verified by Bob, WA3PZO, and not have to ship the cards to ARRL Headquarters. You must be an ARRL member to qualify for the awards.

Additional information and links can be found on the HARC website ([www.harcnet.org](http://www.harcnet.org))

### **SFTW**

#### **Stamps For The Wounded**

We are still collecting and sending packages of stamps in support of this very worthwhile program. Save what you can, especially those foreign QSL mailings, cut off the corner of the envelope, leaving at least a 1/4" around, and bring them to the meeting or mail to:

Rich Shivers  
9029 Eastview Rd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19152

## **Stay Connected!**

The HARC Club net meets every Wednesday night at 8 PM on the Club repeater. Check in and see what's going on.

Preceding the HARC net is "The Elmer Net"  
Are you a new ham, or an old hand with questions?  
Come join us on [The Elmer Net](#)

Wednesday 7:00 P.M.  
on the Holmesburg ARC repeater.  
146.685 "-" offset, 146.2 PL

Groups.io: WM3PEN/Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club

Facebook:Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club

## **Associations**

HARC just joined the SKCC – Straight Key Centaury Club #24642 under both WM3PEN and K3FI.

We are also members of;  
Ten-Ten International #71057  
PODXS 070 Club #1493 (PSK activity)  
ARRL Special Services Club

## **Meetings**

Club meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at the Philadelphia Protestant Home, 6401 Martins Mill Road , Philadelphia, PA 19111. Time is 8PM.

Currently club meetings will be conducted online using Zoom.

### **Upcoming Topics**

**Sept 16 2021**  
K3EUI, Barry on RFI

**Oct 21 2021**  
K6FOD, Frank on "Adventures in FT8 & FT4"

## **Membership**

We would like to welcome recent new members of HARC:

John – KI3J  
Fred – KC3SAD  
Sean – KC3SAI  
Jonathan – N3XJP

## **PHILA ARES INFORMATION**

All amateurs interested in participating should check into the Phila ARES Net, Sunday's at 9:00 PM, hosted on the Phil-Mont Repeater System; 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)  
;444.80 MHz (+offset 186.2 PL) When control operators are available, Echolink node 29742, WU3I-L, is on the repeater.  
Backup link is KB3IV-L.

All interested amateurs are welcomed and encouraged to check in for more information. There is always a different topic of interest to the amateur community discussed with an informal round table of comments and suggestions.

HARC member, Cliff – KC3PGT, is the Philadelphia Emergency Coordinator, Section 1, EPA Region.

Look forward to having all check in on Sunday nights @ 9:00 pm. See web site for more information.  
- Visit the Philadelphia ARES web site  
<http://www.phlares.org/>

## **HARC Board of Directors**

President – Saul Broudy, W3WHK  
Vice President – Steve Miller, W3AZT  
Treasurer – Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO  
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Technical - Ron Cardullo, K3RJC  
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Greg Malone, WA3GM  
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**WM3PEN @ AOL.COM**